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NATIVE SMALL FARMERS IN PUNCHBOWL CRATER.



CRATER OF PUNCHBOWL NOW GIVEN OVER TO SQUATTERS GROWING SWEET POTATOES.

The picture represents the interior of the crater of Punchbowl which has recently been taken up by small squatters who are effecting now have large crops of sweet potatoes in view. They find that tually weeding out the lantana, building small homes, and growing there is sufficient rain over the area to grow the potatoes well and sweet potatoes on quite a large scale. the soil in which they are planted is said to be very good.

BOY KING'S PALACE.

The Infanta Isabella, aunt of the king, a widow of 60 years of age, or so, and the most popular person in Spain, formerly had a large suite of apartments on the main floor of the palace, but with her usual delicacy and thoughtfulness she vacated them after the recent coronation in order that they might be ready for the Queen mother in case the king should marry. Isabella now lives in a private palace within a few blocks of the royal residence and is a daily visitor there.

The young King and his mother have large suites on the front of the palace facing the city, and the location of their bedrooms is indicated by the invariable palm leaves attached to the balcony, according to the Spanish custom. You will see similar palm leaves hanging to the balconies of nearly all the residences in town, those of the poor as well as the rich. A sheet of white paper tied to the iron railing means that the room is for rent, a palm leaf means that it is the sleeping chamber of a pious Catholic, who brought it home from church on the last Palm Sunday and placed it there to keep away evil spirits, diseases and misfortunes. It remains there the entire year until the next anniversary, when a new palm, fresh from the blessing of the priest, is substituted.

The King has very comfortable quarters, much more homelike than are usually found in royal palaces. He has a series of drawing-rooms, a dining room larger than that at the White House at Washington, a library with about 6,000 volumes upon the shelves, mostly modern publications and current literature in all the European languages; a music room, a smoking room, billiard room, gymnasium and study, which is also used as an office.

His sleeping chamber is large and airy and contains two beds, one of which is occupied by his private secretary or one of his tutors, or aides, as they are termed since the coronation—Major Larija, Major Casteljon or Count Andino. He is never allowed to sleep alone, and in an adjoining room sleeps Prudencio, his venerable valet, while two of his bodyguards are always in the anteroom which must be passed before his chamber is reached.

Some of these rooms are occupied in common with the Queen mother, but she has her own suite of five or six rooms adjoining, with access to the flat roof of a long wing which is occupied by the guards and the intendente, or superintendent of the palace. This is arranged so that awnings may be dropped in hot weather and is decorated with palms and other plants and flowers. It also gives the King and the Queen an opportunity for exercise, the roof being about 400 feet long and forty feet wide.—Chicago Record-Herald.

THE RUSSIAN AS A SOLDIER.

"The Russian soldier, as I saw him during the Boxer campaign, impressed me as being a fatalist of a very practical sort," writes O. K. Davis in the December Everybody's. "If it is his time to lose his life he will lose it, and there is little use in trying to save it. He might as well go to one place as another, and it makes no difference whether he goes into a fight or keeps out of it. He travels the line of least resistance and from this develops a blind, but often unintelligent obedience. That sort of man makes a dangerous fighting machine.

"With all these good qualities, however, there are others not so attractive. Big, strong, patient of toil and hardship, he is also clumsy, stupid, and very slow—a serious fault in fighting men. There was a good exhibition of the Russian lack of speed the day the Pekin relief column marched from Mahto to Chang-chia-wan. For that morning it had been arranged that a Russian battery and battalion of infantry should form part of the advance guard with the Japanese whom the regular formation of the column placed in the lead. The Japanese were doing their full share, but the Russians could not or would not keep the pace. After repeated attempts to get them to do so, Japan was obliged to ask Russia to withdraw its men and give room to the Japanese so that the required speed could be made. The Russians halted and formed beside the road while the Japanese infantry went by them on the double, and the battery at a trot. From that time until the day's distance had been made, there was no more trouble about the failure of the advance guard to maintain contact with the enemy."

It is related that a very brilliant Irish lady once arranged that the late William Lecky, the famous historian, should meet an eminent Irishman of very advanced opinions in politics. It was intended that they should exchange views, and the Irishman had a good deal to say about Mr. Lecky's later work, and was well able to put what he had to say in the most effective language. However, as soon as Mr. Lecky was introduced to the Irishman, he began a political harangue which he kept going without cessation the whole time he was there. The Irishman at first tried to break in with a word, but he was swept away, as it were, in the unceasing flow of Mr. Lecky's language; so after a time he sat in amused bewilderment, waiting until nature gave out. But when Mr. Lecky felt he was getting exhausted, he rose from his chair, shook hands with the hostess and her guest, keeping on talking all the time. They came out with him to the top of the staircase, but could not get in a word edgewise even then, as he talked all the way down to the door, and was even in an unfinished sentence when the door was shut behind him. Then the hostess and her guest looked at each other and roared laughing, for the brilliant Irishman's intentions to impress Mr. Lecky had cleverly been frustrated.

JAPAN'S FIGHTING ADMIRAL.

The Japanese have reason to be proud of Vice-Admiral Togo, who has just succeeded Admiral Tsuboi in command of the standing squadron, the force which would probably be engaged first in case of war. He is a young officer, as flag officers go, in the prime of life, and he of all available admirals knows what naval war under modern conditions means.

In 1894, when the Japanese "wiped out" the Chinese fleet, Admiral Togo—he was only a captain then—struck the first blow. He was in command of the second-class cruiser Naniwa, not an armored vessel in the usual sense of the term, but a good British-built ship of 3,650 tons, with a protective deck from two inches to three inches thick and armored conning towers. For her size she was very heavily armed, carrying two 10.2-inch guns, six 5.9-inch and a couple of 9-pounders and ten Maxims for repelling torpedo craft. This little ship saw more fighting than any other vessel in the Japanese navy, and Capt. Togo won for himself then his title "The Fighting Admiral." He is one of the popular heroes of Japan.

The British steamer Kowshing and two others had been loaded up with soldiers and stores by the Chinese and had started for Corea. On July 25, when in sight of the islands of the Korean archipelago, a Japanese man-of-war—the Naniwa—came in sight of the Kowshing and fired blank shots as a signal to her to stop. The order was obeyed, and then Capt. Togo signalled: "Remain where you are or take the consequences."

The Kowshing was subsequently directed to follow the man-of-war, but the terrified Chinese would not let the British skipper carry out the order and threatened to murder him. Capt. Togo is what would be styled "an arbitrary gent," and when he was disobeyed he warned Europeans to leave the ship and then promptly discharged a torpedo and opened fire with the five guns which could be brought to bear.

The torpedo hit the vessel, and in the words of Herr von Hanneken, a Prussian officer in the Chinese service, who was on board, "The day became night; pieces of coal, splinters and water filled the air; then I believe all of us leaped overboard and swam." Many of the crew reached land, though it is said the Captain of the man-of-war would give no aid in rescuing the Chinese; his idea of war did not go to these humanitarian lines. The Kowshing sank in half an hour.—London Daily Telegraph.

BUSINESS A TEMPERANCE REFORMER.

All the railroads that centre in Chicago have prohibited the use of liquor or tobacco by employees when on duty. Practically all the important railroads now concur in this prohibition. The Western Electric Company and numerous other great business concerns in the West forbid not only the use of liquor, but of cigarettes and the habit, now grown to an almost incredible extent among all classes of the community, of "playing the races." Business reasons thus make necessary the control or avoidance of habits against which moral reasons are too often helpless.—December Everybody's.

TO MEN WHO ARE WEAK!



This is a message to men. It is to men who want to feel like men, to look like men and act like men. This is to men who lack courage, whose nerves are shaken, whose brains are muddled, ideas confused, sleep restless, confidence gone, spirits low and easily depressed, who are backward, hesitating, unable to venture because they are afraid of failure, who want somebody to decide for them, who are weak, puny, restless. It is to men who have part or all of these symptoms and want new life, new force, new vigor. I offer it to you in my wonderful

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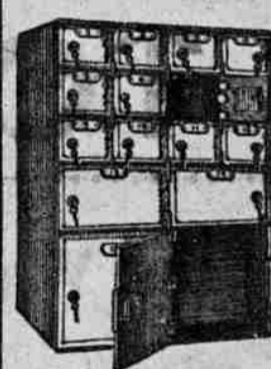
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